



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q67030

Handwritten signature of Hidenori Mukaida

Appln. No.: 09/985,856

Group Art Unit: 2837

Confirmation No.: 4383

Examiner: Shih Y. HSIEH

Filed: November 6, 2001

For: ENGINE MUFFLER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing

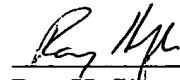
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/985,856 (Q67030)

concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Ray Heflin  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: February 26, 2003



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67030

Hidegori MUKAIDA

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Group Art Unit: 2837

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Examiner: Shih Y. HSIEH

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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